

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 05783 241726Z

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TAGS: OEXC, PO

SUBJ: PROJECT FOR LABOR LEADERS

REF: (A) STATE 199203, (B) LISBON 5453

1. EMBASSY NOMINATES ANTONIO DOS SANTOS ANUNCIACAO FOR 30-DAY PROJECT TO OBSERVE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ACTIVITIES OCT 7 TO NOV 5, 1976. ANUNCIACAO IS DIRECTOR OF THE LABOR SECTION OF THE INFLUENTIAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, "EXPRESSO," AND SUPERVISES WORK OF OTHER REPORTERS IN THAT SECTION. HIS ARTICLES ARE HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL IN THAT THEY ARE ONE OF THE FEW SOURCES PROVIDING OBJECTIVE INFORMATION ON THE PORTUGUESE LABOR DEVELOPMENTS.

2. ANUNCIACAO WAS BORN IN LISBON JULY 27, 1953. HIS ADDRESS IS BAIRRO DA ASSUNCAO, LOTE 27, 2ND LEFT, CASCAIS. PREVIOUS TO JOINING "EXPRESSO," ANUNCIACAO WAS AN EDITOR OF "TEMPO ECONOMICO," A WEEKLY ECONOMIC SURVEY. HE HAS COMPLETED THREE YEARS AT LAW SCHOOL. ANUNCIACAO IS MARRIED.

3. ANUNCIACAO HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY VISITED THE UNITED STATES AND HAS TRAVELLED ONLY WITHIN SOUTHERN EUROPE. HE HAS LIMITED ENGLISH ABILITY. AN INTERPRETER WOULD BE NECESSARY ALTHOUGH SPANISH INTERPRETATION WOULD SUFFICE. POST CLEARANCE GRANTED.

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PAGE 02 LISBON 05783 241726Z

4. EMBASSY AWARE THAT NOMINATION OF A JOURNALIST IS NOT

STRICTLY WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF LABOR LEADER PROGRAM. HIS NOMINATION MADE IN PART BECAUSE SOCIALIST PARTY LABOR OFFICIAL STATES THAT SOCIALIST LABOR LEADERS QUALIFIED FOR THIS PROGRAM ARE NEEDED IN PORTUGAL AT THIS TIME. NEVERTHELESS, EMBASSY CONVINCED NOMINATION OF A LABOR JOURNALIST FULLY JUSTIFIED AS MAJOR PROBLEM IN PORTUGAL IS BASICALLY LACK OF LABOR EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL. ANUNCIACAO HAS GREATER POTENTIAL FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION ON AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT THROUGH MEDIUM OF RESPECTED JOURNAL THAN WOULD ANY INDIVIDUAL LABOR LEADER.

5. ANUNCIACAO IS YOUNG, BUT IS ALREADY AN ESTABLISHED AND QUALIFIED JOURNALIST. A SUPPORTER OF THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD), ANUNCIACAO IS RESPECTED FOR HIS OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE. EMBASSY BELIEVES HIS INCLUSION IN PROJECT IS JUSTIFIED AND HAS SUBSTANTIAL POTENTIAL BENEFITS. NOT LEAST OF THESE BENEFITS IS LIKELIHOOD OF HAVING U.S. ELECTIONS GIVEN ON-THE-SPOT AND BACKGROUND COVERAGE BY LEADING PORTUGUESE NEWSPAPER.

6. EMBASSY DEFERS TO DEPARTMENT AS TO WHETHER INCLUSION OF WORKING JOURNALIST, EVEN ONE WITH LABOR INTERESTS, AMONG GROUP OF VISITING LABOR LEADERS MAY CAUSE PROBLEMS TO U.S. HOSTS OR FOREIGN INVITEES.
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